

From: Chris Leazure - Systems Engineer
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 11:44am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hi,

I would like to add my opinion that the proposed final judgment in United States vs Microsoft case is insufficient and lacks many corrective actions especially in the area of use of monopoly power to control a market. Microsoft is and has been reacting to the growing use and popularity of Java and cross-platform Java tools to squelch its use by creating incompatible knock-off versions that break the "write once and run anywhere" (multi-OS) support, leveraging their 95%+ desktop OS market monopoly to create market dispersion and trying to kill any form of competition against their OS/Application monopoly. Microsoft could take Java and make it better and run faster on their OS/platform (Intel) without breaking compatibility which would represent some amount and form of goodwill towards the overall computing market being the huge monopoly that they are today. Instead they are sore losers and are leveraging every ounce of energy they have to preserve their monopoly by pushing, through their huge marketing voice, that they have a better computing methodology (so what if it only runs on our OS), stifling competition and steering the market into a Microsoft and MS partners only environment.

Usually, the open market that the US has proudly built takes care of monopolistic activities such as what Microsoft is doing with Java and their OS/Application integration but it is sometimes a slow process. Hopefully, with minor thoughtful action by the USDOJ in this case the ground work will be laid to feed continuing innovation in the computing and high-tech markets in relation to monopolistic powers and allow the open market to correct itself.

Regards,

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